

**Slavery and the Making of America. 9780199845453. Oxford University Press, 2004.**

**James Oliver Horton, Lois E. Horton. 2004. 256 pages**

Slavery and the Making of America is a 2004 PBS four-part documentary series on African American slaves and their contributions to the United States. Famous African Americans such as Colonel Tye and historical figures such as President George Washington and John Murray are all documented in the series. The series covers Black Loyalists and Black Patriots. Emmy Award winning composer Michael Whalen wrote the film's original soundtrack. <http://www.pbs.org/previews/slavery/>. <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/slavery/>. You should read Slavery and the Making of America if you are a college student taking an American History survey course, a teacher in high school, teaching American History, an AP high school student, or an adult living in America who ever looks around and asks, how the hell did we get here to this place of intense racial prejudice, violence and hatred. It is the companion book to the PBS series Slavery and the Making of America, a series that I would also suggest. It is narrated by Morgan Freeman, so who wouldn't love that? I am considering implementing this book into my AP class next year :) I read this book for my grad school class about American Slavery. The authors document the horrors of slavery, particularly in the deep South, and describe the valiant struggles to escape bondage, from dramatic tales of slaves such as William and Ellen Craft to Dred Scott's doomed attempt to win his freedom through the Supreme Court. We see how slavery set our nation on the road of violence, from bloody riots that broke out in American cities over fugitive slaves, to the cataclysm of the Civil War.